REMARKS

Entry and consideration of this Preliminary Amendment are respectfully requested.

This Preliminary Amendment is being filed to remove the multiple dependencies and avoid the surcharge, and to add new claims 10-20.

Applicants respectfully request entry of this Preliminary Amendment.

Respectfully submitted,
SMITH, GAMBRELL & RUSSELL, LLP

Michael A. Makuch, Reg. No. 32,263

1850 M Street, N.W., Suite 800

Washington, D.C. 20036 Telephone: (202) 659-2811

May 22, 2006